



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

BIBDATASHEET

CONFIRMATION NO. 1303

Bib Data Sheet

SERIAL NUMBER 10/615,974	FILING DATE 07/09/2003 RULE	CLASS 227	GROUP ART UNIT 3721	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. END909.0511036
-----------------------------	---------------------------------------	--------------	------------------------	--

APPLICANTS

Frederick E. Shelton IV, Hillsboro, OH;
 Michael Earl Setser, Burlington, KY;
 William Bruce Weisenburgh II, Maineville, OH;

** CONTINUING DATA *****

XONB

** FOREIGN APPLICATIONS *****

XONB

IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED

** 10/03/2003

Foreign Priority claimed	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	STATE OR COUNTRY	SHEETS DRAWING	TOTAL CLAIMS	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS
35 USC 119 (a-d) conditions met	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> Met after	OH	10	13	3
Verified and Acknowledged Examiner's Signature	<i>Allowance</i>	Initials			

ADDRESS

FROST BROWN TODD LLC
 2200 PNC Center
 201 E. Fifth Street
 Cincinnati , OH
 45202-4182

TITLE

Surgical stapling instrument incorporating a tapered firing bar for increased flexibility around the articulation joint

FILING FEE	FEES: Authority has been given in Paper No. _____ to charge/credit DEPOSIT ACCOUNT No. _____ for following:	<input type="checkbox"/> All Fees <input type="checkbox"/> 1.16 Fees (Filing) <input type="checkbox"/> 1.17 Fees (Processing Ext. of time) <input type="checkbox"/> 1.18 Fees (Issue) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Credit
RECEIVED 880		